

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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| COUNTRY | USSR | REPORT | |
| SUBJECT | 1. New Rail Line between Saratov and Petropavlovsk 2. New Rail Lines East from Karaganda | DATE DISTR. | 26 December 1954 25X1 |
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. In 1950, a new rail line between Saratov and Petropavlovsk had been completed. From Saratov, via Uralsk (N 51-14, E 51-22) and Chkalov (N 51-45, E 55-06), to Magnitogorsk (N 53-27, E 59-04) there was a triple-track. Traffic was very heavy on this section. From Magnitogorsk to Orsk (N 51-10, E 58-34), the track was double and was electrified. Between Orsk and Kustanay (N 53-10, E 63-35), the track was triple. The portion of the line from Kustanay to Petropavlovsk was partly single and partly double-track. All ties in the new rail line were of wood.¹
2. Three new double-track rail lines out of Karaganda connected it with Pavlodar, Semipalatinsk, and Lepsy.²

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Comments:

1. See attached sketch of the railroad system between Saratov and Petropavlovsk, based on information from overt publications
2. there were no railroad lines out of Karaganda in 1954 except a double-track line west to the Urals and a single-track line south. A line to Karkaralinsk and Ayaguz was planned. Atlas Mira (Moscow, 1954) shows a line from Akmolinsk, about 200 kilometers northwest of Karaganda, to Pavlodar, but no direct rail connection between Karaganda and Lepsy or Karaganda and Semipalatinsk.

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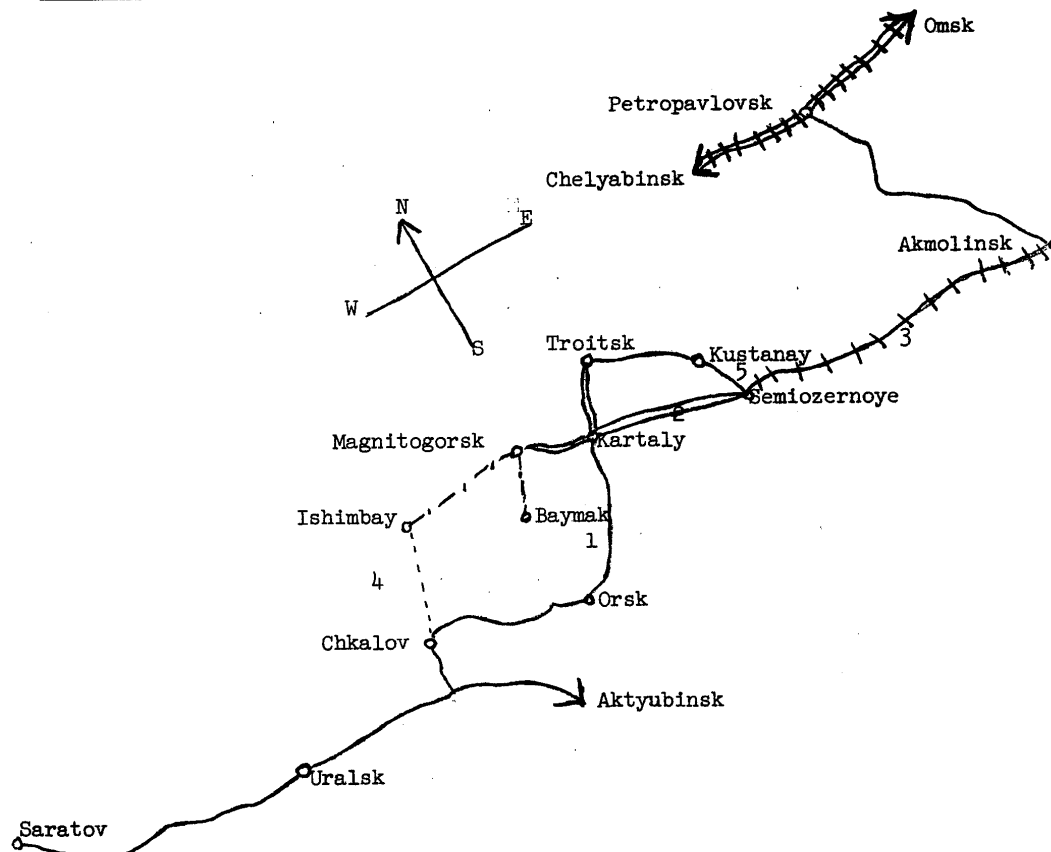
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

-2-

Sketch of Rail Lines Existing Between Saratov and Petropavlovsk in 1954Key

— Single-track railroad

== Double-track railroad

+++ Electric railroad

--- Railroad possibly under construction

.... Railroad possibly completed

1. Two tracks planned

2. Possibly electric

3. Possibly double tracks

4. Atlas Mira (Moscow, 1954) shows tracks completed from Ishimbay south to Ermolayevo, halfway to Chkalov.5. Atlas Mira shows no track from Kustanay to Semiozernoye.

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